such as the renal glomeruli. The invention therefore includes methods of treating such diseases by administering therapeutically effective amounts of uteroglobin (and variants or mimetics) to prevent or improve the IgA mediated condition. Transgenic uteroglobin knockout animals, and animals in which uteroglobin-protein expression is reduced by antisense technology, also provide systems for studying IgA mediated diseases, and screening for appropriate treatments.--

REMARKS

The specification has been amended herein to insert Applicant's claim of priority, and to insert the Abstract, originally included in the first page of the International Application, as the last page of the specification. No new matter has been added.

The priority claim was already set forth in the cover sheet that accompanied the patent application and in the cover sheet of the PCT application that was submitted with the application as filed.

If any matters remain to be discussed prior to examination, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-up Version of Amended Specification
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)-(c)

On page 1, line 4, please insert the following paragraph:

PRIORITY CLAIM

This is a § 371 U.S. national stage of PCT/US00/09979, filed April 13, 2000, which was published in English under PCT Article 21(2), and claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 60/130,434, filed April 21, 1999.

Please add the Abstract, as shown on the attached marked-up version of page 54 of the specification.

Abstract

UTEROGLOBIN IN THE TREATMENT OF IgA MEDIATED AUTOIMMUNE DISORDERS

Uteroglobin has been discovered to prevent IgA mediated diseases, such as IgA nephropathy, by preventing the deposition of IgA-Fibronectin immunocomplexes in tissues such as the renal glomeruli. The invention therefore includes methods of treating such diseases by administering therapeutically effective amounts of uteroglobin (and variants or mimetics) to prevent or improve the IgA mediated condition. Transgenic uteroglobin knockout animals, and animals in which uteroglobin-protein expression is reduced by antisense technology, also provide systems for studying IgA mediated diseases, and screening for appropriate treatments.